and (b) M/s Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited was issued a default notice on 13.7.1988 advising the company to register under section 26 of the MRTP Act. The provisions of the MRTP Act were also made applicable to companies under default notice.

In its various submissions and personal hearing, the company raised various issues, including not being an undertaking in terms of the MRTP Act. Subsequent to the hearing, the company sought further time for making detailed representation. This was received on 14.8.1991.

The relevant provisions relating to registration under section 26 of the MRTP Act were omitted with effect from 27.9.1991.

(c) Does not arise.

Increasing the posts of High Court Judges

4420. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3282 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd March, 1992 and state:

(b) whether it is a fact that Government propose to create more than 30 posts of Judges in various High Courts of the country so as to clear the arrears of cases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) The High Court-wise break-up is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	High Court	Sanctioned strength (permanent/ Addl.)	New Posts agreed to be created (Permanent/ Additional)
1.	Allahabad	70	7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	26	10
3.	Bombay	54	6
4.	Calcutta	46	4
5.	Delhi	30	3
6.	Gauhati	16	3
7.	Gujarat	30	—
8.	Himachal pradesh	8	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	1
10.	Karnataka	30	—
11.	Kerala	24	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30	5
13.	Madras	28	4
14.	Orissa	14	—
15.	Patna	35	4
16.	Punjab & Haryana	32	1
17.	Rajasthan	25	7
18.	Sikkim	3	—
	Total:	511	55

Voting rights to NRIs

4421. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to grant voting rights to NRI's; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

4422. [*Transferred to the 31st March, 1992.*]

3 **Regional imbalance in Rajasthan**

4423. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after seven Five Year Plans Government have not so far been able to achieve equitable regional development in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

particularly in Rajasthan which continue to lag behind the other States in march of development; and

(c) what was the per capita plan outlay for Rajasthan during Seventh Five Year Plan as against all States average and whether Government propose to reduce such regional disparities during Eighth Five Year Plan period, if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Balanced regional development of backward areas within a State is very much an objective of the planning process. However, implementation of this objective, so far as regional development is concerned, is tempered by certain inherent, historic and other characterstics of regions such as difference in resources endowment, disparities in availability of infrastructural facilities, physiographic factors and geographical conditions. The prime reasons in case of Rajasthan are feudal traditions, high rate of population growth, low infrastructural facilities, recurring droughts, errati rainfall, endemic power shortages and lower progress in agriculture. The responsibility for development of a particular region rests primarily with the State Government concerned. In this the Central Government helps the States, including Rajasthan, through the mechanism of transfer of resources under modified formula, previously known as 'Gadgil Formula' special area programmes and devolution of non-plan resources by the Finance Commission.

(c) The per capita outlay of Rajasthan during the Seventh Five Year Plan was Rs. 746 while the average for all States was Rs. 1032. The Eighth Plan has not been finalised.

Long term central assistance to Rajasthan for completion of Indira Gandhi Nahar Project

4424. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that the requirement of Rajasthan Government for completion of the Indira Gandhi Nahar Project by 2002 AD would be around Rs. 700 crores.

(b) whether the Central Government are also aware that the State Government alone is not in a position to commit long term sustained requirement of funds for this project; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide substantial amount of central assistance on a long term basis during the Eighth Five Year Plan period, indicating also what *ad-hoc* assistance given to Rajasthan by way of border area development programme during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission had approved the revised estimates of Indira Gandhi Nahar Project Stage-II in April, 1987 for Rs. 931.24 crores. The updated estimates for the project are still awaited from the State Government. The amount required for completion of project would depend upon the updated cost as well as the availability of finanacial resources for the Project. In addition to outlays from State Plans the Central Government have released Central Assistance under drought relif, Border Area Development Programme and Centrally sponsored C. A. D. Programme. In addition the Project also received IDA and IFAD assistance.

(c) In regrad to question of provision of Central Assistance on long-term basis during the Eighth Five Year Plan , the details of Eighth Plan are yet to be finalised. During the current year i. e. 1991-92 the Central Assistance released to Government of Rajasthan under Border Area Development Programme is Rs. 27.80 crores